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## *NEWS FROM THE 11<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT*



### **Suffolk County Legislature Collecting Unwanted Cell Phones for Soldiers Program**

Recently Suffolk County Legislator Tom Barraga (R-West Islip) announced that Presiding Officer Gregory and the Suffolk County Legislature are collecting unwanted cell phones for the Cell Phones for Soldiers Program. Donated phones are recycled and the funds received are used to purchase international calling cards to help keep military families connected.

#### **Cell Phones for Soldiers Mission:**

Cell Phones for Soldiers Inc. is a 501(c) (3) nonprofit organization dedicated to providing cost-free communication services to active-duty military members and veterans.

#### **Cell Phones for Soldiers Fast Facts:**

Since 2004, Cell Phones for Soldiers...

- Have provided more than 204 million minutes of free talk time
- Mails approximately 7,500 calling cards each week
- Recycled more than 11 million cell phones, reducing the impact on landfills
- July 2012 launched Helping Heroes Home, to provide emergency funds for returning veterans to alleviate communication challenges as well as physical, emotional and assimilation hardships.
- Since July 2012, Helping Heroes Home has assisted more than 400 veterans and their families with emergency funding.
- Has remained a family-run, nonprofit organization operated almost exclusively by Bob, Gail, Brittany, Robbie and Courtney Bergquist.

For more information on this program please view the website:

<http://www.cellphonesforsoldiers.com/about.php>.

If you would like to donate you can drop cellphones off at 187 Sunrise Highway Suite C West Islip or call (631)-854-4100 for more information.